JOSHUA WILLIAMSON
ANDREA MILANA
ANNALISA LEONI
COBRA COMMANDER
image
#02

ENERGON UNIVERSE

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COBRA COMMANDER

ADDITIONAL FIELD OPERATIVES

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SPECIAL THANKS TO HASBRO'S MICHAEL KELLY, ED LANE, LINDA LEE & TAYLA REO FOR THEIR INVALUABLE ASSISTANCE.

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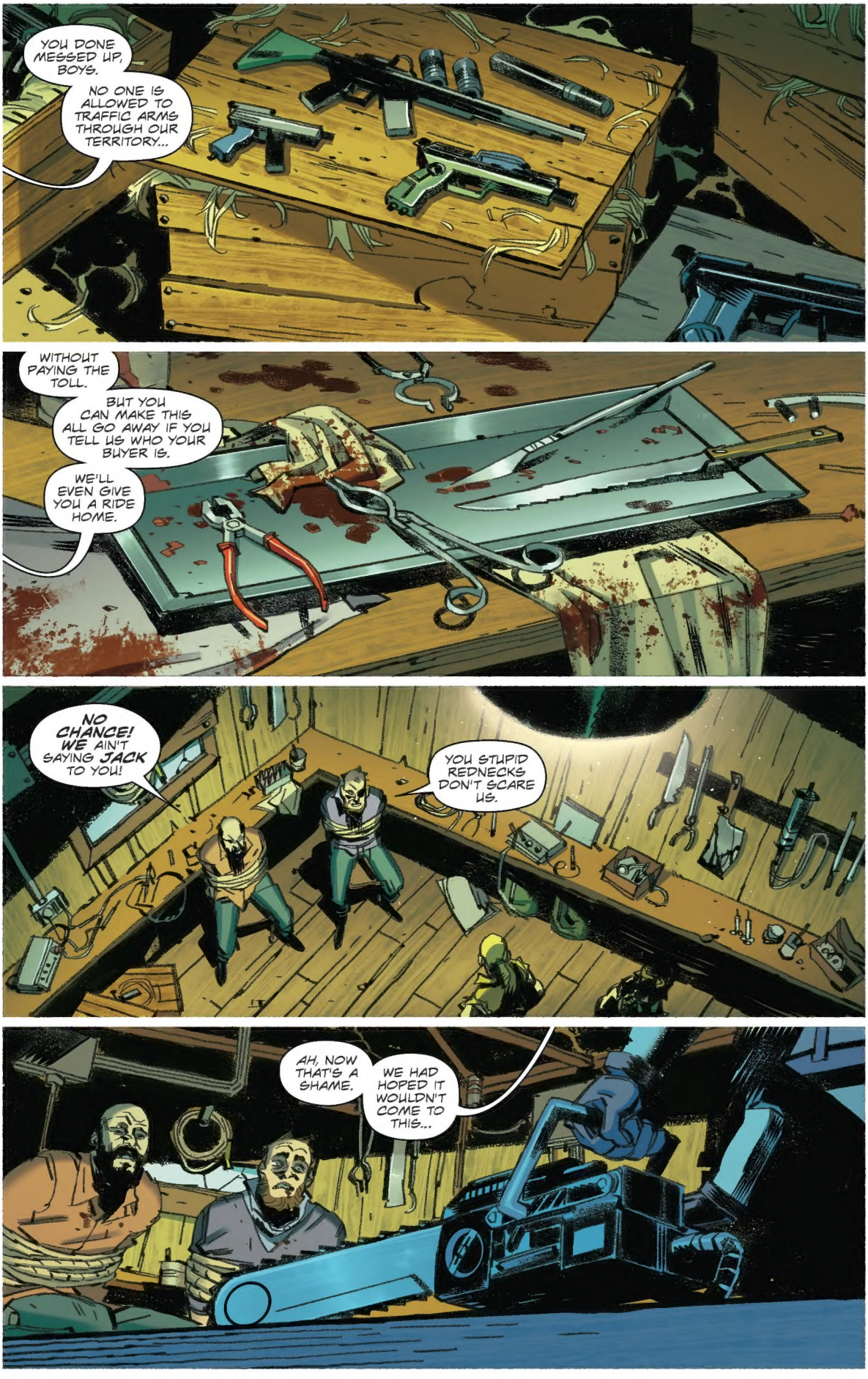

YOU DONE MESSED UP, BOYS.
NO ONE IS ALLOWED TO TRAFFIC ARMS THROUGH OUR TERRITORY...
WITHOUT PAYING THE TOLL.
BUT YOU CAN MAKE THIS ALL GO AWAY IF YOU TELL US WHO YOUR BUYER IS.
WE'LL EVEN GIVE YOU A RIDE HOME.
NO CHANCE! WE AIN'T SAYING JACK TO YOU!
YOU STUPID REDNECKS DON'T SCARE US.
AH, NOW THAT'S A SHAME.
WE HAD HOPED IT WOULDN'T COME TO THIS...

BBBBBBZZZ
ZZZ-
SPPPPTTTTT

OH GOD, OH GOD.
BBZZZZ SPT SPTSPT SPT
HE NEVER TOLD US HIS NAME! JUST SOME BIG DUDE WITH A FLATTOP!
WE WERE SUPPOSED TO MEET THEM IN ORLANDO!
NICE WORK, BUZZER.
WE'LL MEET YOUR BUYER FOR YOU, BUT BEFORE THAT...
GET OUR FRIEND READY, RIPPER.
YOU-YOU... YOU SAID YOU'D LET ME GO.
NO...WE SAID WE'D GIVE YOU A RIDE HOME...

VROOM

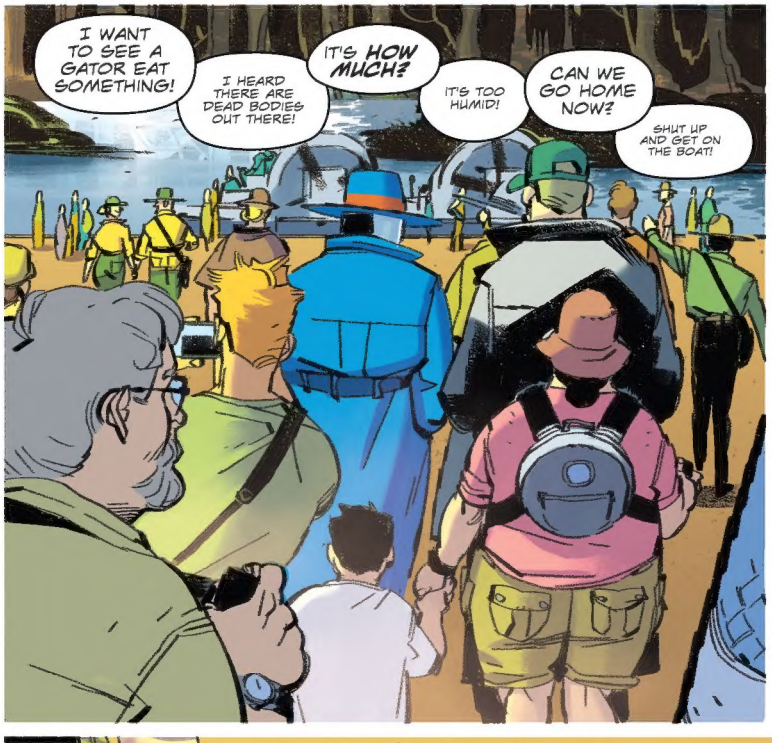
AHHHHHHH!!!

SSSTTHHHH

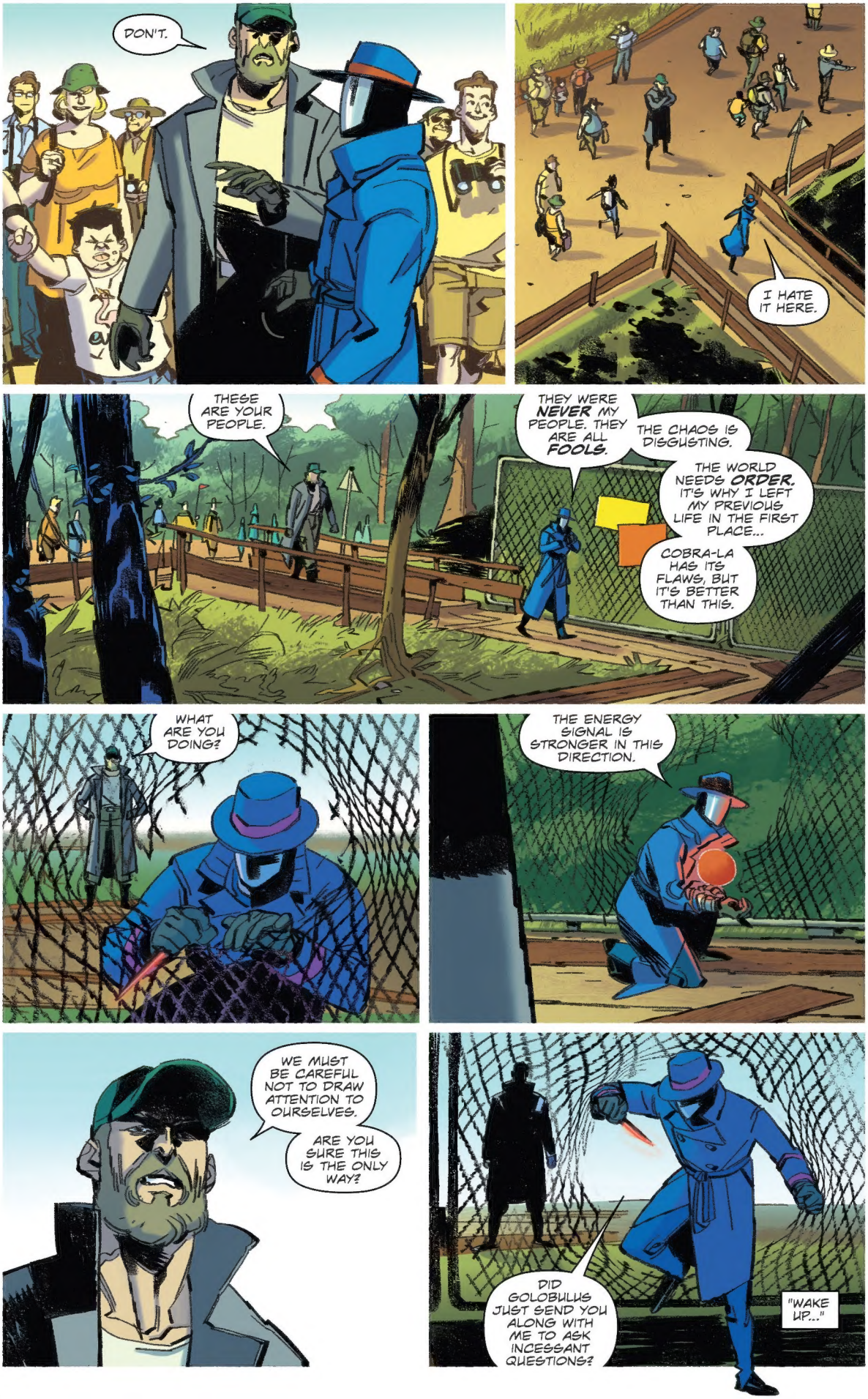
NANANANANANANA

SPT

BOAT RIDES
SEE THE
GATORS!


I WANT TO SEE A GATOR EAT SOMETHING!
I HEARD THERE ARE DEAD BODIES OUT THERE!
IT'S HOW MUCH?
IT'S TOO HUMID!
CAN WE GO HOME NOW?
SHUT UP AND GET ON THE BOAT!

=GASP=


DON'T.
I HATE IT HERE.
THESE ARE YOUR PEOPLE.
THEY WERE NEVER MY PEOPLE. THEY ARE ALL FOOLS.
THE CHAOS IS DISGUSTING.
THE WORLD NEEDS ORDER. IT'S WHY I LEFT MY PREVIOUS LIFE IN THE FIRST PLACE...
COBRA-LA HAS ITS FLAWS, BUT IT'S BETTER THAN THIS.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
THE ENERGY SIGNAL IS STRONGER IN THIS DIRECTION.
WE MUST BE CAREFUL NOT TO DRAW ATTENTION TO OURSELVES.
ARE YOU SURE THIS IS THE ONLY WAY?
DID GOLOBULUS JUST SEND YOU ALONG WITH ME TO ASK INCESSANT QUESTIONS?
"WAKE UP..."

WHAT...? WHERE...?
IT IS BEST THAT YOU FEEL WHAT IS BEING DONE TO YOU, SO YOU UNDERSTAND THE GRAVITY OF THE SITUATION.
GOLOBULUS IS SENDING THE COMMANDER OUT INTO THE WORLD OF HUMANS. BUT HE CAN'T GO ALONE. HE NEEDS SOMEONE TO KEEP AN EYE ON HIM.
BUT YOU CANNOT GO AS YOU ARE, MY OLD FRIEND.
THERE MUST BE SOME... CHANGES.
TTTT TT TT TT
ANYTHING...

"...FOR COBRA-LA..."
OUR MASTERS ARE CONCERNED YOU WILL ALLOW YOURSELF TO BE... DISTRACTED BY YOUR OWN GOALS AND FAIL IN YOUR MISSION.
HOW DARE YOU?!
I MAY BE AMBITIOUS, BUT I AM LOYAL TO COBRA-LA!
MY WORK HERE IS TOO IMPORTANT TO HAVE YOU INSULT ME OR TAG ALONG.
AND THE ONLY DISTRACTION I SEE IS THIS FOOLISH CONVERSATION.
I WILL GO ALONE.
I WAS ORDERED TO ENSURE YOU COMPLETE YOUR MISSION AND BRING THE ENERGON BACK TO GOLOBULUS, AND AS MUCH AS I DISLIKE IT, THAT ALSO MEANS PROTECTING YOU.
YOU WILL DO AS I SAY, AND I WILL LEAD, COMMANDER.
UNHAND ME, YOU FOOL.
YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHO YOU ARE DEALING WITH?
I'D LOVE TO KNOW AS WELL, BOYS.

HOWDY.
FIRST, THIS PART OF THE 'GLADES IS NOT FOR TOURISTS...
ESPECIALLY SOMEONE DRESSED LIKE YOU.
I KINDLY ASK THAT YOU REMOVE YOUR MASK AND SHOW ME SOME I.D., SIR.
YOU SEE WHAT I MEAN?
A WORLD OF FOOLS.
OKAY, I TRIED TO PLAY NICE...
I NEED TO SEE IDENTIFICATION NOW!

IF YOU'RE CHARGED TO PROTECT ME...?
PROTECT ME.
HM.
HEY NOW, DOWN TO THE GROUND WITH YOUR HANDS BEHIND YOUR HEAD...
OR I WILL PUT YOU DOWN!
BANG!
BANG!
WHAT--
THE--

KRAK-SPAT
RRUP
COMMANDER?

FINALLY.
PEACE.
THE ENERGON IS NEAR...
HM.
CREEEKK

I AM NOT ALONE IN EXPERIMENTING WITH THIS ENERGY.
BUT THIS IS NOT THE SOURCE OF IT...

WRRROOOMMM

LOOKIE HERE. A GUEST JUST DROPS IN UNINVITED.
YOU GET LOST?
IT'S A BIT HOT FOR A JACKET LIKE THAT, AIN'T IT, BUDDY?
->SIGH<-... I BELIEVE YOU HAVE STUMBLED ONTO SOMETHING THAT BELONGS TO ME...
IF YOU CANNOT HELP ME, I WILL BE ON MY WAY.
MAYBE. BUT FIRST YOU GOTTA PAY THE TOLL.
STARTING WITH THAT SHINY MASK.
DONUT
I HAVE SOMETHING BETTER IN MIND.

BANG BANG
BANG BANG
YYEE-HA!
BEEN A WHILE SINCE WE HAD OURSELVES A FAIR SHOOTOUT, RIPPER.
SHOULD WE CALL IN FOR BACK-UP?
I THINK WE CAN HANDLE THIS ONE...
YOU UNDERESTIMATE ME.

BOOM!
MY BABY!
I'M GONNA KILL 'IM!
BZZZ
YOU MESSED WITH THE WRONG BOYS, WEIRDO!
BUZZER! RIPPER!

YOU GONE NUTSO?!
THAT PART OF THE SWAMP IS OFF-LIMITS.
EVEN TO US.
ZARANA! HE BLEW UP THE THUNDER MACHINE!
WE CAN'T JUST LET HIM OFF. WE GOTTA REP TO UPHOLD!
WHOEVER THEY WERE...THEY AIN'T EVER COMING OUT OF THAT SWAMP.
AND BESIDES...
...WE'RE LATE FOR A FAMILY MEETING...
KEEP OUT

=UF UF UF UF=
BEEP BEEP BEEP BEEP
WHAT...?
THIS IS IT.
MY QUEST IS OVER. THE POWER OF TRANSFORMATION RESIDES IN THESE WATERS...
RAW AND POWERFUL. I JUST NEED TO HARVEST IT.
THEN I CAN RETURN TO COBRA-LA AND SHOW THAT I HAVE EARNED MY PLACE.
...OR I COULD...
PROTECTOR... IS THAT YOU?
SPLOOSH!

NEXT ISSUE:
COBRA VS GATORS!

DIRECT ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO

[redacted]

GIJOE@SKYBOUND.COM

Hey, Cobra troopers, editor Jonathan here. Welcome back to issue #2 and the terror that lurks in the Everglades! And I thought Cobra-La was creepy… Speaking of, who saw that coming in #1?! Josh is taking this series to horrific heights already! To say nothing of MEGATRON! Seen for the first time in all his glory… well not all his glory, he was missing both arms. Guess you'll just have to stick around to see how he got there!

We have been blushing over the response to issue #1! We could not be more proud of this series, and are so psyched that y'all have been digging it. Digging it so much, we've already got some letters coming in! so let's get to it!

Cobra Commander Team,

I am a first-time reader to all the G.I. Joe universe. I've read probably a few comics, but never really dove deep into any of the cartoons or the comics in the past, and I have to say that these titles specifically COBRA COMMANDER #1 have been such a refreshing and welcome addition to my comic titles, especially when it comes to welcoming new readers.

I'm really impressed with how easy it is to just dive into this world and I'm very much looking forward to seeing how the universe will expand, as well as all the connections between the different series and of course the future of these characters.

I have to ask maybe how much we will see of COBRA-LA in the future, and if that will play a big part in the upcoming arcs, but a fantastic job so far with this debut title I was able to pick up three different variants at my shop, so I'm very excited about this book and the rest of the ENERGON universe.

Sincerely,
Daniel Martinez
Dallas TX

Could not be happier to hear it, Daniel from Dallas! A big goal of the Energon Universe titles is to provide super accessible jumping-on points for any and all readers. Whether you've read every issue of G.I. JOE: ARAH or this is your first time reading these characters, it's for YOU!

We've all loved getting to play with Cobra-La, and you'll definitely see its return down the line. We won't leave you hanging! As you can tell from COBRA COMMANDER #1, we're setting out on a journey. But we're not done with Golobulus, Pythona, or Cobra-La by a longshot!

Dear Josh and company,

I was really blown away by the first issue of Cobra Commander! I was equally blown away by Duke issue 1 as well! I like that you guys at Skybound are putting an adult take on GI JOE and TRANSFORMERS. Cobra Commander in this comic is a far cry from the lovable buffoon that he was portrayed in the classic cartoon series. He's absolutely terrifying! It was very clever how you showed a Cobra-LA scientist who resembled pre-Cobra Cobra Commander from GI JOE: The Movie yelling retreat making

us think that was Cobra Commander. However, you showed him getting shot in the head by the real Cobra Commander who said "There is no retreat!" Talk about a shocking way of saying "Hey guys, this isn't the lovable doofus we grew up knowing!" Also, Cobra-La appears to be underwater and definitely resembles Atlantis. Is it possible that Cobra-La inspired the myth of Atlantis in that world? I'm excited to see how Megatron will play into the rise of Cobra and how the Commander will pull all the iconic Cobra characters into his orbit. Will Void Rivals play into the Cobra Commander series? I can't wait for the next issues of Cobra Commander and Duke!! Keep knocking them out of the park!!!

Jeff Rosenberry
Chambersburg, PA

Thank you for reading, Jeff! We've been thrilled with Josh's characterization of Cobra Commander, and the horror genre is something we're leaning into heavily to bring you a more imposing and sinister version our favorite villain. Not that he was ever a lightweight, but we're hoping to convey some of his iconic personality while letting you know this is NOT the Commander you've seen before.

As for a connection to VOID RIVALS, what I can say is that Robert is already cooking up something you won't see coming! We've got lots of territory to cover still, but we have big plans for when we start to see more character crossover. Keep reading!

Hi Duke team!

First of all, I'd like to say that the first issue of Duke was AMAZING! I had never read or watched a piece of GI Joe media before, and I was blown away! The writing and art are both amazing, and I can't wait to get my hands on issue 2. My question is: Other than all the new series', what should I read or watch to get myself introduced and caught up to the GI Joe world?

Thanks, Peter

We hope you liked COBRA COMMANDER #1 just as much! And great question! You definitely do not HAVE to read or watch anything to prepare. All our Energon Universe series are intended to introduce characters and concepts in real time, so that they're specific to this iteration.

That said, going back to where it all started is a lot of fun! I'd recommend the 1980s Sunbow animated series, and of course Larry Hama's original comic series. While the Energon Universe is unique and takes things in new directions, we're still heavily inspired by the classics, featuring many familiar characters, vehicles, and locations. They provide the foundation we've built upon, and it's a blast seeing where the characters started and how they evolve in the Energon Universe.

Thanks for reading everyone! See ya next month for more Dreadnok danger. And keep writing in! Josh and I will be back next issue and we want to answer your burning questions!

Remember to stop into your comic shop and pick up DUKE #3 next week!

Jonathan Manning

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ON SALE MARCH 20

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VIltrumite-Immunity
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Matter-Manipulation
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(Reminder: Sequids may not be discarded)
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ROBOT

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